Defining YOUR FD Firefighter Task and Training Needs

- What the firefighter is expected to achieve?
 - o Fire suppression?
 - vehicle Extrication?
 - Automobile
 - Semi
 - School Bus
 - o Water Rescue?
 - Diving
 - Ice
 - o Hazardous Materials?
 - Response
 - Control
 - Cleanup
- What firefighters actually do to accomplish those goals?
- How firefighters are influenced by their physical environment?
- How firefighters' previous knowledge and experience influence how they think about their tasks and the system they follow to perform their tasks?
- What firefighters value most?

Techniques of Task Analysis

- Observation
- After Action
- Testing and Evaluation

Workflow analysis

Analyzed to understand how a firefighter accomplishes a particular task. Analysis is important because it allows investigators to identify which users are doing which tasks in a process.

A task analysis is not a single analysis, but rather a collection of many different analyses. A researcher must decide which analyses are needed, based on the amount of resources available, time, etc.

Task lists and inventories

A task list is an inventory of all the tasks that firefighters will want to accomplish within an evolution, sometimes includes additional tasks the Chief may want to include.

It is a list of what firefighters have to be able to accomplish, not how to accomplish those tasks.

Process analysis, task sequences

A task sequence is a series of tasks on the lists that firefighters must do, or are likely to do in a certain order. A task sequence is developed optimally through observation. It provides a picture of the steps firefighters must take to go through tasks.

Task hierarchies

A task analysis is hierarchical. A task hierarchy illustrates the tasks and subtasks of a process or activity. It seeks to deconstruct and decompose tasks into its smallest components. The best example of this process is that in order to advance a hoseline into a burning structure the firefighter must be able to don PPE and SCBA efficiently. One task builds upon another task.

Procedural analysis

One specific task that is divided into the steps and decisions that a firefighter completes goes through in doing that task. It illustrates how firefighters carry out their tasks with the tools currently available to them.

Driver Task Analysis

- Open the overhead door at the station
- Don appropriate PPE
- Turn battery disconnect switch to on position
- Start the apparatus.
- Check for all riders to have seat belts on
 - Put on drivers seat belt
- Release parking brake
- Check overhead door (to make sure it is open all the way)
 - Check roadbook / computer for directions to dispatched address
 - Check for water supply location
- Don headset
 - Radio enroute
- Engage emergency lights
- Place transmission in gear for forward movement
- Check street conditions as you approach the road
 - Observe for vehicles and make sure they are stopping
 - Use warning devices appropriately
 - Come to a complete stop when approaching any controlled intersection
 - When approaching vehicles from the rear allow enough time for the driver to make the appropriate reaction.
- When approaching the scene observe for driveway / access issues.
 - Structure is set back from roadway
 - Physical condition of driveway / rock / concrete / blacktop /
 - Secure water supply
- Radio arriving
 - Give situation report
- Apparatus placement
 - Observe two sides
 - Adequate distance

- Set parking brake
- Engage pump
 - Switch
 - Transmission engaged
 - Check speedometer at least 10 mph
- Etc.